Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 04838 301328Z

43
ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 AGR-20 INT-08 FEAE-00 AID-20

CEQ-02 CIAE-00 COA-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 EPA-04

INR-10 IO-14 L-03 NSF-04 NSC-07 NSAE-00 PM-07 RSC-01

SS-20 SP-03 DRC-01 /160 W
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R 292058Z MAY 74
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3995

UNCLAS CARACAS 04838

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS; SENV, VE
SUBJECT: VENEZUELA ANNOUNCES PROGRAM FOR CONSERVATION OF
RENEWABLE NATURAL RESOURCES.

1. PRESIDENT CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ ANNOUNCED AT NOON MONDAY MAY
27 A BROAD NEW PROGRAM OF CONSERVATION OF RENEWABLE NATURAL RE-
SOURCES. THE ENTIRE CABINET EXCEPT FOR THE FOREIGN MINISTER
WAS PRESENT AT THE ANNOUNCEMENT, AND THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR AND AGRI-

CULTURAL ATTACHE WERE SINGLED OUT FROM THE DIPLOMATIC COLONY
FOR INVITATIONS, THE AMBASSADOR BEING SEATED IN THE FRONT
ROW OF AUDIENCE IN FRONT OF THE PRESIDENT.

2. SEVEN DECREES WERE ISSUED, DATED MAY 26:
A. DECREE 106 ESTABLISHED A PROTECTED ZONE ALONG THE GUARICO RIVER
IN ARAGUA STATE.
B. DECREE 107 ESTABLISHED A ZONE OF DEVELOPMENT AND WATER
RESERVE IN AREAS OF THE STATES OF BARINAS AND PORTUGUESA.
C. DECREE 109 ESTABLISHED A WILDLIFE PRESERVE IN GUANARITO
DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF PORTUGUESA.
D. DECREE 110 CREATED AN INTER-MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE, HEADED
BY THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, TO DEVELOP STUDIES AND PLANS
FOR CONSERVATION IN COASTAL AREAS.
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PAGE 02 CARACA 04838 301328Z

E. DECREE 113 CREATED A NATIONAL PARK IN THE EASTERN COASTAL

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

REGION OF STATE OF FALCON, INCLUDING CHICHIRIVICHE.
F. DECREE 115 CREATED A PROTECTED ZONE IN THE COASTAL AREA EAST OF EL AVILA PARK (THE MOUNTAINS NORTH OF CARACAS), IN EFFECT ENLARGING EL AVILA PARK.
G. DECREE 118 SET UP PROCEDURES FOR CLEARING THE NEW PARK ARE SET UP IN DECREE 115 OF PRIVATE BUILDINGS, BY NEGOTIATION OR EXPROPRIATION.

3. THESE DECREES WERE ONLY A LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR BROADER CONSERVATION ANNOUNCEMENTS. FOR EXAMPLE, IN THE CHICHIRIVICHE AREA HOUSES ON STILTS BUILT OVER THE WATER ARE TO BE DESTROYED, AND SNORKEL SPEARFISHING IS PROHIBITED. MANGROVE SWAMPS ALONG THE COAST ARE TO BE SAFEGUARDED AGAINST FILLING AND POLLUTION. THE "GREEN AREAS" OF CARACAS COUNTRY CLUB AND HACIENDA BLANIN ARE TO BE PRESERVED, AND FURTHER CONSTRUCTION ON THEM CONTROLLED. A HENRY PITTIER DECORATION IS ESTABLISHED FOR ACCOMPOLISHMENTS IN THE FIELD OF CONSERVATION. IN ADDITION TO THE INTERMINISTERIAL COMMITTEE SET UP IN DECREE 110 FOR COASTAL AREAS, THE PRESIDENT CREATED A COUNCIL FOR CONSERVATON OF RENEWABLE NATURAL RESOURCES, CHAIRED BY MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND COMPOSED OF REPRESENTATIVES OF VARIOUS OTHER MINISTRIES, GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, AND PRIVATE ASSOCIATIONS: AMONG THE FUNCTIONS OF THIS COUNCIL IS THE PREPARATION OF A NATIONAL PLAN FOR CONSERVATION OF RENEWABLE NATURAL RESOURCES.
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EO Systematic Review
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